

# ABSTRACT OF THE INVENTION

The present invention provides a method for enhancing an  
5 immune response in a mammal to facilitate the elimination of a  
chronic pathology. The method involves the removal of immune  
system inhibitors from the circulation of the mammal, thus,  
enabling a more vigorous immune response to the pathogenic agent.  
The removal of immune system inhibitors is accomplished by  
10 contacting biological fluids of a mammal with one or more binding  
partner(s) capable of binding to and, thus, depleting the targeted  
immune system inhibitor(s) from the biological fluids.  
Particularly useful in the invention is an absorbent matrix  
composed of an inert, biocompatible substrate joined covalently to  
15 a binding partner, such as an antibody, capable of specifically  
binding to the targeted immune system inhibitor.